

Message Text

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53

ORIGIN EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 EUR-08 PM-03 SP-02

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DRAFTED BY EA/LC - JBROH-KAHN:MFG

APPROVED BY EA - RHMILLER

EA/LC - JDROSENTHAL

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P R 121424Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164770

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT OF LAO AMBASSADORS

1. LAO AMB TO US KHAMPHAN PANYA TOLD US JULY 11 THAT HE HAD BEEN RECALLED TO LAOS AND INSTRUCTED TO LEAVE BY AUG 15. HE SAID HE HAD ALSO BEEN INSTRUCTED REQUEST FAREWELL CALL ON PRESIDENT FORD.

2. KHAMPHAN THOUGHT PRIMIN SOUVANNA PHOUMA MIGHT HAVE RECALLED HIM AS AIDE IN PRIMIN OFFICE SINCE HE DID NOT HAVE MANY CRONIES LEFT OR THAT KING HAD ASKED FOR HIM TO WORK IN PALACE, WHERE KHAMPHAN HAD FORMERLY SERVED AS SECRETARY WHEN KING WAS CROWN PRINCE. KHAMPHAN SAID A NEW FIRST SECRETARY IN LAO EMBASSY WASHINGTON WHO WAS HIS PROTEGE WOULD BE ARRIVING FROM VIENTIANE WITHIN WEEK
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AND KHAMPHAN PLANNED TO ASK HIM WHAT SITUATION WAS LIKE

IN LAOS BEFORE MAKING FINAL DECISION RETURN. AT PRESENT, HOWEVER, KHAMPHAN PLANNED TAKE FAMILY BACK WITH HIM TO ASSESS SITUATION FIRST HAND.

3. KHAMPHAN ADDED HE HAD HEARD FROM FRIENDS IN VIENTIANE THAT HIS REPLACEMENT WOULD BE LIEN PRAVONGVIENGKHAM, NOW AMB IN PEKING AND FORMER COUNSELOR WASHINGTON, BUT THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NO INSTRUCTIONS TO REQUEST AGREEMENT WHICH

HE ASSUMED WOULD BE HANDLED IN VIENTIANE. HE ALSO HEARD THAT LIEN WOULD BE REPLACED BY A PATHET LAO.

4. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT INPENG SURYADHAY, AMB IN LONDON, HAD BEEN REPLACED BY PLATTHANA CHOUNLAMANY FROM VIENTIANE AND THAT INPENG PLANNED STAY IN FRANCE RATHER THAN RETURN TO LAOS. HE ALSO SAID THAT AMB LA NORINDR IN MOSCOW HAD BEEN SIMILARLY REPLACED. INGERSOLL

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